

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 GUADAL 00252 050041Z

66

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

/071 W

----- 053996

P 042100Z FEB 76

FM AMCONSUL GUADALAJARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2762

INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS GUADALAJARA 0252

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MX

SUBJ: DISTURBANCE ON JLP CAMPAIGN TRAIL IN MORELIA

REF: MEXICO 1122 OF JANUARY 27, 1976

SUMMARY: FIRST VIOLENT DEMONSTRATION OF JLP CAMPAIGN MARS MORELIA VISIT. STUDENTS PROTESTING UNIVERSITY AND LAND OWNERSHIP CONDITIONS. STATE GOVERNOR APPEARS UNPOPULAR WITH STUDENT DISSIDENTS WHO MAY WELL CAUSE FURTHER PROBLEMS IN FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. APPROXIMATELY 400 TO 500 STUDENTS DEMONSTRATED ON JANUARY 26 IN THE MAIN SQUARE OF MORELIA, MICHOACAN, DURING THE PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN VISIT OF JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO, PRI CANDIDATE. DAMAGE OF ROCK AND STICK THROWING PROTESTERS WAS RELATIVELY SMALL CONSIDERING SIZE OF DEMONSTRATION AND CONFORMS TO PHYSICAL DAMAGE DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL. NO ONE WAS PERSONALLY INJURED ALTHOUGH SEVERAL OFFICIAL VEHICLES WERE DAMAGED.

2. ACCORDING TO A MORELIA SOURCE, THE STUDENTS USED THE LOPEZ PORTILLO VISIT TO RELEASE THEIR FRUSTATIONS CONCERNING CONDITIONS IN THE LOCAL UNIVERSITY WHERE THE RECTOR WAS FORCED TO RESIGN FOR ALLOWING NON-MICHOACAN STUDENTS TO FLOOD THE CLASSROOMS, ALLEGEDLY FOR HIS PERSONAL GAIN.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 GUADAL 00252 050041Z

3. ANOTHER CONTRIBUTING FACTOR OF DISCONTENT WAS EVIDENCED BY

SIGNS SAYING "NO DEMOCRACY IN MEXICO" BY WHICH THE STUDENTS PROTESTED AGAINST THE MICHOACAN STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING LARGE SUMS ON THE CAMPAIGN OF THE UNOPPOSED PRI PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE INSTEAD OF GIVING MORE RESOURCES TO THE UNIVERSITY.

4. A THIRD POINT WAS THAT GOVERNOR CARLOS TORRES MANZO IS UNPOPULAR WITH THE STUDENTS WHO ARE UNSURE IF HE REALLY WAS BORN IN MICHOACAN STATE. HE IS CONSIDERED AN OUTSIDER FROM MEXICO CITY BY THE STUDENTS AND THEY MAY HAVE WANTED TO EMBARRASS HIM IN FRONT OF THE PRI CANDIDATE ON HIS CAMPAIGN VISIT.

5. POSSIBLY CONNECTED WITH THE STUDENT DISTURBANCE ARE THE TWO RECENT LAND DISPUTES NEAR MORELIA WHICH ALLEGEDLY RESULTED IN THE DEATH OF 25 FARMERS. THE GOVERNOR IS BEING BLAMED BY THE STUDENTS AND CAMPESINOS FOR FAVORING ONE GROUP OF EJIDATARIOS OVER ANOTHER AND THUS PROVOKING THE DEATHS.

6. WHATEVER THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THESE FOUR FACTORS, THE VIOLENCE, STUDENT DISCONTENT, AND LAND OWNERSHIP PROBLEMS ARE REAL AND CONTINUING. THE MICHOACAN STATE GOVERNMENT IS IN FOR ITS SHARE OF PROBLEMS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF ZACATECAS. THE VISIT OF LOPEZ PORTILLO GAVE THE DISSIDENTS A PERFECT OPPORTUNITY TO DISPLAY THEIR DISPLEASURE WITH THE GOVERNOR AND HIS POLICIES. ORTWEIN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976GUADAL00252
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760043-0099
From: GUADALAJARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760284/aaaacvub.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 MEXICO 1122
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: blochd0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BrownAM>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2004 by blochd0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISTURBANCE ON JLP CAMPAIGN TRAIL IN MORELIA
TAGS: PINT, MX, JLP
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006